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SOURCE Kazakhstanskaya Pravda

KARAGANDA COAL INDUSTRY FLOURISHES DESPITE BACKWARD ENTERPRISES

[Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

On 28 December, the Karagandaugol' Combine completed the 1951 plan for coal extraction (1) and by the end of the year had shipped hundreds of tons of above-plan coal. (2) Labor productivity was 12 percent higher than in 1950 and the average daily output was several thousand tons higher. (1) Production costs were reduced 4 rubles per ton of coal.

The year 1951 was characterized by an increase in the level of mechanization in all mining operations in the basin. In the majority of mines, up to 80 percent of the breaking up and loading of coal is now being done by mechanical means. Mines of the combine now have at their disposal a large number of coal-mining and tunnel-cutting machines which make it possible to mechanize conveying, hauling, and loading of coal onto railroad cars, as well as breaking up and loading of coal and rock in development work.

Mine No 20 was one of the first to convert to the cycle work schedule. Formerly, coal was extracted in this mine at seven faces and during three shifts. At present, the number of faces has been reduced to four and coal is mined only during two shifts. This has made it possible to free a number of auxiliary workers and has assured an adequate supply of qualified workers for the faces in operation, as well as better machines and spare parts.

Mine No 20 has increased its coal output 11 percent. Loading machines here are achieving a performance of 13,000 tons of coal per month, twice their quota, and cutting machines cut 20,000 tons of coal per month as against a progressive norm of 12,000 tons. Workers of the mine have attained the highest labor productivity in the basin, exceeding the prewar level 20 percent. (2)

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In 1951, manual labor was replaced completely by machines at all faces of Karaganda Mine No 1 where all coal is now mined by the Donbass combine. In 1951, the cycle work schedule was introduced for the first time in Karaganda at the first eastern section of this mine. The daily output of coal from the face rose from 120 to 360 tons, the monthly productivity of the combine rose to 10,000 tons as against a norm of 5,300 tons, and 18 persons in the section were freed for work elsewhere. Labor productivity of the miners rose to 1½ times what it was, and, although the section had a smaller working force, it was able to deliver ten trainloads of above-plan coal. In 1951, 40,000 more tons of coking coal were mined than in 1950, and planned production costs of every ton were reduced 4 rubles 65 kopeks. Although the average progressive norm was exceeded by all combines, their productivity was not uniform. While 10,000 tons per month were mined in the first eastern section, only 6,000 tons per month were mined by the combine working in the fifth western section, in spite of the fact that mining conditions in the two sections were similar.(3)

Mine No 31 of the Karaganda basin achieved great success in 1951. Mechanization was completed at all faces and all coal was mined by coal-mining combines. The output of the miners rose 12 percent and was 1½ times that of the prewar level. Production costs per ton of coal were 5 rubles 40 kopeks below the plan.

However, great contrasts exist in Mine No 31. Three sections out of seven are not yet working at full capacity, fail at times to complete the day plan, and owe the country hundreds of tons of coal. A considerable number of the miners in sections No 2, 7, and 8 are not completing their norms. The daily productivity of the combines at these sections does not exceed 350 tons, only half as much as at outstanding faces.(4)

Open-pit miners of Karaganda fulfilled the 1951 plan successfully and shipped hundreds of thousands of above-plan tons of coal to the Urals to supply the needs of that area's expanding industry.

In the new year, the production plan has been increased considerably, but it is probable that this plan will also be exceeded since the average daily output has increased a thousand tons. Miners have resolved to increase labor productivity 13 percent above that achieved in 1951, to mine not less than 100 trainloads of coal above their quota and to lower production costs of fuel not less than one half million rubles.

The pits are receiving heavy, 3-cubic-meter excavators constructed by the Ural Heavy Machinery Plant. In February, operations of mine railroad transport will expand considerably, with an increased capacity of 50 cars per day.(5)

A number of mines and mine sections in the basin are not completing their year quota and are not fulfilling the average progressive norms for utilizing machinery. More than half of the faces converted to the cycle work schedule are not keeping to the established cycle norm. A particularly large number of backward sections and mines are to be found in the Leninugol' Trust. In 1952, the established plan for converting faces to the cycle work schedule must be exceeded, with the aim of having all faces operating on this schedule and completing one cycle each 24 hours during 1953.

Three fourths of the mines in the Karaganda basin are worked by the Long-wall method. This is not the best type of mining for the area and is the result of a lag in development work.(2)

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SOURCES

1. Alma-Ata, Kazakhstanskaya Pravda, 30 Dec 51
2. Ibid., 23 Jan 52
3. Ibid., 26 Feb 52
4. Ibid., 5 Feb 52
5. Ibid., 11 Jan 52

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